

Recommendation for Installing a Mobile Units for Facility Personnel

A mobile unit providing hospital services (for billing purposes) shall meet the requirements of Chapter 246-320 WAC regardless of its length of stay. This list represents a few common obstacles facilities have had to overcome to meet the rules. While each project is unique, specific conditions may arise which must be addressed on a case-by-case basis. Ensuring that all of the items below are addressed on the drawings, functional program or a combination of both will aid in a quick and easy plan review.

The following is a list of items to consider for your mobile unit installation that may be beyond the control of the equipment supplier:

- ❑ If the utility service connections are from existing services within the hospital, then Construction Review Services (CRS) must review all connections regardless if the mobile unit is providing hospital services or not. When services are provided directly from the utility company, and the patient care services are not to be provided by the hospital, CRS review is not required.

- ❑ No building's HVAC outdoor air intakes are within 30'-0" of the mobile units generator exhaust or HVAC exhaust.

NOTE: The exhausts from the mobile units that have been reviewed are located on the opposite side of the door to the mobile unit and beneath the floor level. Due to the high velocities of the exhaust, it is recommended that they do not exhaust to a pedestrian area. It's also required that exhaust directed toward a building be planned so as to not channel the air back to the air intakes.

- ❑ No building's exhaust vents shall be located within 30'-0" of the mobile unit's outside air intake, except plumbing vent stakes which may be no less than 10'-0" from outside air intakes.
- ❑ There shall be at least a 20-foot separation between the mobile unit and the hospital if either is unsprinkled. Awnings and overhangs are considered a part of the building.
- ❑ Adequate protection shall be provided for utility hook-ups, cables, and wires by having them concealed in conduits, burying them underground, or installing them overhead.
- ❑ At anytime the mobile unit is parked onsite, in the event of a fire, the smoke detector shall be connected to a device that will notify hospital staff outside of the mobile unit. If a fire does occur, then staff should be notified immediately to take the appropriate actions.
- ❑ Fire alarm notification may be obtained by one of three ways:
 - Via an auto dialer connected to the smoke detectors;
 - An audible device located on the outside of the mobile unit; or
 - Connection to the hospital fire alarm system.

The appropriate device will be determined by site conditions.

- ❑ Provide a means for connecting the mobile unit to the hospital emergency communications (nurse call) system. This may be obtained via telephone.
- ❑ For emergency use, only non-ferrous, portable medical gas cylinders and assemblies shall be stored in mobile MRI units. Storage shall be limited to a maximum of one tank for use and one tank as a spare.

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- ❑ A handwash sink shall be available in the mobile unit, or located conveniently inside the hospital. Sanitizing gels are required within the mobile unit when a hand wash sink is located conveniently inside the hospital.
- ❑ A restroom shall be available in the mobile unit, or located conveniently inside the hospital near the waiting areas. When restroom facilities are not provided in the mobile unit, please provide a floor plan showing restrooms convenient to the mobile unit and the waiting areas. Patients shall be reminded to use the restroom before they enter the mobile unit. Provide disposable/plastic bedpans, urinals, or both in the mobile unit.
- ❑ Provide patient protection from the elements during transport to and from the mobile unit. Patient protection from elements may be obtained by other means than covered walkways. Snow shall be kept clear of pathways to and from the mobile unit. Effective means of abating ice shall be used when conditions exist. Protecting the patient from dust and wind also needs to be considered.
- ❑ A concrete pad, constructed per the manufacturer's specifications, shall be installed where the mobile unit will be parked for use at a facility. The concrete pad for the mobile unit does not need to be reviewed or inspected by the Department of Health.
- ❑ Housekeeping shall be provided for the mobile unit. Storage of housekeeping supplies may be within the hospital janitor's closet.
- ❑ If used by inpatients, the mobile unit must accommodate a stretcher or a gurney.
- ❑ All interior finishes and surfaces shall be easily cleanable and maintainable.
- ❑ Radiographic, fluoroscopic, CT and x-ray therapy devices must obtain approval from DOH Division of Radiation Protection. For submission requirements contact Radiation Protection at 1-800-299-9729. Please include your CRS # on your submission to Radiation Protection. CRS must obtain a copy of the radiation approval letter before mobile unit approval can be given.

“Construction Review Services protects and improves the health and safety of people in Washington by providing professional consultation and review for the design and construction of licensed or certified care facilities for our customers.”

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